

# Loud & Clear

Summer 2003

Volume 15, No. 2

**FOR  
KIDS!**

## Summer Reading Program

**June 20 – August 30, 2003**

Be sure to “wolf down” plenty of books while on summer vacation!

To participate, listen to Talking Books or commercial books on tape, or read large print, regular print, or Braille. (Access Services provides Talking Books. Visit local library branches for commercial books on tape and print books.)



If you are entering preschool through grade 6, you need to read 15 books. If you are entering grades 7 through 12, you need to read 8 books. Please call us at 703-324-8380 to register for the Summer Reading Program and we will send all the materials and detailed guidelines in the mail. Just for signing up,

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**Fairfax  
County  
Public  
Library**

### Access Services

Fairfax County Public Library • 12000 Government Center  
Pkwy., Suite 123, Fairfax, VA 22035-0012  
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FAX (703)324-8386 • e-mail: [access@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:access@fairfaxcounty.gov)

**[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)**

***Summer Reading Program continued ...***

you will receive a FREE Potomac Canons baseball ticket, a FREE DC United soccer ticket, *and* a FREE Washington Freedom soccer ticket.

Once you have completed your reading log and returned it to us (or your neighborhood library branch), you will receive a book full of fabulous coupons for places such as McDonald's, Tower Records, Jerry's Pizza, and more!

Be sure to also visit your local library branch to participate in the many wonderful programs going on there this summer. Advance sign-up is required for these programs. You can find a calendar of events at your local branch or on the Internet at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library).

To help you get started on "wolfin' down books", this special edition of Loud & Clear contains a list of some great Talking Books titles!

## **Preschool-Grade 2**

**RC 54482 *Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business*,  
by Barbara Park**

Through a misunderstanding, Junie B. thinks that her new baby brother is really a baby monkey. When she reports this to her kindergarten class during show-and-tell, she causes a lot of excitement and a problem for her teacher.

**RC 52440 *Blueberries for Sal*, by Robert McCloskey**

One day in Maine, Little Sal goes blueberry picking with her mother. Little Bear also comes with his mother to eat blueberries on the other side of the hill. There is quite a mix up when the little ones stray from their mothers. Caldecott Honor.

**RC 53635 *The Llama Who Had No Pajama: 100 Favorite Poems*, by Mary Ann Hoberman**

Poems about swings, birthdays, twirling until dizzy, insects, rain, snow, brothers and babies, and animals—especially the llama. A hundred peppy poems about childhood experiences, selected from forty years of writing.

**RC 53740 *Brian's Bird*, by Patricia A. Davis**

Brian, who is blind, enjoys learning to care for the parakeet he receives on his eighth birthday. He comes to realize that his older brother, Kevin, while sometimes careless, is not so bad after all.

**RC 54595 *Mr. Putter & Tabby Feed the Fish*, by Cynthia Rylant**

After Mr. Putter buys three goldfish and takes them home, he discovers that his cat, Tabby, has a serious problem with them. A beginning chapter book.

**RC 54883 *Gus and Grandpa at Basketball*, by Claudia Mills**

Gus enjoys basketball practice, but the noise from the crowd and fast pace of real games bother him, and he doesn't play well. Then his game improves when grandpa gives him some good advice. Beginning chapter book.

**RC 54287 *Miss Nelson is Missing!*, by Harry Allard, James Marshall**

The kids in room 207 giggle, throw spitballs, and are rude to their good-natured teacher, Miss Nelson. When she disappears, the worst-behaved kids in school face a mean substitute, Miss Viola Swamp.

**RC 50951 *The Arthur Family Treasury*, by Marc Brown**

The adventures of Arthur the aardvark and his family include *Arthur's Birthday*, when Arthur solves the problem of having the same birthday as Muffy; *Arthur's Family Vacation*, when it rains almost all the time; and *Arthur's Baby*, when a new sister joins the family.

**RC 50855 *Wemberly Worried*, by Kevin Henkes**

Wemberly worries about everything—big things, little things, and even in-between things. She worries all day long. Her biggest worry is about going to school for the first time. But Wemberly gets a surprise when she arrives for the first day.

## **Grades 3-6**

**RC 52181 *Shelter Dogs: Amazing Stories of Adopted Strays*, by Peg Kehret**

Features eight stray dogs that were adopted from shelters and went on to become service animals, actors, and heroes. “Zorro, the Champion That Nobody Wanted” relates how a large, lively canine became a star on a flyball team.

**RC 50863 *A Treasury of Pirate Stories*, Compiled by Tony Bradman**

Thirteen stories about pirates by authors such as Ruth Ainsworth, Colin McNaughton, Pat Hutchins, Joan Aiken, Tony Robinson, Geoffrey Hayes, Emily Arnold McCully, Sara Conkey, and Margaret Mahy. Includes selections from Barrie’s *Peter Pan* (RC 23643), Ransome’s *Swallows and Amazons* (RC 22220), and Stevenson’s *Treasure Island* (RC 18121).

**RC 54319 *Farewell, My Lunchbag: From the Tattered Case-book of Chet Gecko, Private Eye*, by Bruce Hale**

When fourth-grade private eye Chet Gecko is called to catch someone who is stealing food from the school cafeteria, the lizard finds himself framed for the crime.

**RC 52047 *Lives of Extraordinary Women: Rulers, Rebels (And What the Neighbors Thought)*, by Kathleen Krull**

Biographical sketches of twenty powerful women—queens, warriors, prime ministers, revolutionary leaders, Indian chiefs, and first ladies—and how they triumphed. While focusing on daring deeds, Krull also includes events of human interest, such as Cleopatra looting foreign libraries to add to her world-famous collection in Alexandria.

**RC 52713 *Alien for Rent*, by Betsy Duffey**

When a ghostly sign advertising “Alien for Rent” appears on their school bulletin board, third-graders J.P. and Lexie decide to check it out. They realize they’ve found the alien when it transforms Bruce, the fifth-grade bully, into a baby.

**RC 50866 *Kneeknock Rise*, by Natalie Babbitt**

The village of Instep is famous for Megrimum, the mysterious monster that lives atop Kneeknock Rise and moans when it’s raining. When Egan’s cousin Ada goads him into climbing the Rise to look for the creature, Egan discovers a mystery of human nature.

**RC 50292 *One Thing I’m Good At*, by Karen Lynn Williams**

Fourth-grader Julie is having a terrible year—she is failing school, her father is sick, and her teenage sister is moody and mean. Julie can think of nothing she is good at. It takes her preschool brother, Bean, to prove her wrong.

**RC 50856 *So You Want to be President?*, by Judith St. George**

Offers unusual and interesting facts about the forty-two presidents of the United States. Points out the variety of personalities and physical characteristics of these men who had at least one thing in common: “their first priority has always been the people and the country they served.”

**RC 51475 *Rugrats in Paris: The Movie*, Adapted by Cathy East Dubowski and Mark Dubowski**

The Rugrats crew arrive in the City of Light so that Stu Pickles can repair his mechanical Reptar. It looks like Reptarland head Coco LaBouche is the answer to Chuckie’s wish for a new mom. But LaBouche is hiding something. A novelization of the feature film.

## **Grades 6-9**

**RC 52106 *The Gadget*, by Paul Zindel**

In 1945, thirteen-year-old Stephen joins his scientist father at the top secret military base Los Alamos. When Stephen tries to discover why his father is obsessed with “the gadget,” he unwittingly enters the realm of intrigue surrounding the development of the first atomic bomb.

**RC 54109 *And Sometimes Why*, by Mame Farrell**

Christy (Chris) and Jack have been best friends since first grade. But Jack is confused when he discovers that, during the summer before they start high school, his jock buddy is turning into a beautiful girl.

**RC 53785 *The Great Good Thing: A Novel*, by Roderick Townley**

Twelve-year-old Princess Sylvie’s storybook kingdom really is a storybook, where nothing ever changes. Whenever the book is opened, the characters scramble madly to reach their proper place,

over and over. Then Sylvie discovers she can enter new worlds with the Reader and find new adventures.

**RC 54072 *Guts: The True Stories Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books*, by Gary Paulsen**

The author of *Hatchet* (RC 30535) and other books featuring Brian Robeson describes the experiences that inspired him to write. These include surviving plane crashes, working as an ambulance driver, hunting for subsistence, and starving for food.

**RC 52767 *First Test*, by Tamora Pierce**

Ten-year-old Keladry is dismayed that she must pass a year's probation to be the first female page in Tortall. But her desire to become a knight and protect people is so strong that Kel accepts the condition. Followed by *Page* (RC 52768).

**RC 53199 *American Computer Pioneers*, by Mary Northrup**

Profiles ten people who helped develop computers. Includes Steve Jobs, who dropped out of college and helped create Apple Computer, Inc., in his garage in 1976; Bill Gates, who wrote his first program when he was thirteen; and Rear Admiral Grace Hopper, who invented technical languages for the navy.

**RC 50232 *Witches and Witch-Hunts: A History of Persecution*, by Milton Meltzer**

Examines witch-hunts around the world from medieval Europe to the present day. Reveals how innocent people become accused of imaginary crimes due to fear, ignorance, and mass hysteria. Includes the Salem witch trials, Shakespeare's witches, and twentieth-century examples of persecution.

**RC 51930 *The Boxer*, by Kathleen Karr**

New York City, 1880s. Fifteen-year-old Johnny Woods learns how to box professionally in prison while serving time for an illegal match. After his release, Johnny continues to box in order to support his mother and five younger siblings.

**RC 52132 *Smith*, by Leon Garfield**

London, 1700s. Just before a man is murdered, twelve-year-old pickpocket Smith steals documents from him. Then Smith hides from the killers in the house of a kindly blind magistrate and decides to learn how to read so that he can decipher the stolen papers.

## **Grades 7-12/Young Adult**

**RC 50265 *It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life*, by Lance Armstrong with Sally Jenkins**

The internationally recognized Texan cyclist relates how a diagnosis of testicular cancer at age twenty-five changed his priorities. Recounts the major events in his life including the ordeals of his treatment, his comeback to win the 1999 Tour de France, and his joy in being a father. Some strong language.

**RC 54094 *The Ransom of Mercy Carter*, by Caroline B. Cooney**

In 1704, eleven-year-old Mercy is captured by Mohawk Indians when her Puritan village is attacked. She is marched through the wilderness to Canada where she learns native ways and the Catholic faith. Will she ever be rescued? Based on a true story. Some violence.



**RC 52323 *Blizzard: The Storm That Changed America*, by Jim Murphy**

An account of the massive snow storm that shut down America's east coast in March 1888, killing hundreds. Transportation, food, and coal supplies suddenly ceased. The disaster led to many improvements, including the establishment of the United States Weather Bureau.

**RC 51524 *The Princess Diaries*, by Meg Cabot**

Fourteen-year-old Mia keeps a diary of her problems—she's too tall and flat, she's flunking algebra, and her mom is dating her teacher. But then her dad arrives from Europe to announce that Mia is really a princess and the heir to his throne. Sequels include *Princess in the Spotlight* (RC 52779) and *Princess in Love* (RC 54037).

**RC 52057 *Whale Talk*, by Chris Crutcher**

Talented, multiracial teen T.J. Jones shuns organized sports but agrees to help his favorite teacher pull together a swim team. He attracts a group of misfits who become buddies and champions—earning the ire of the school jocks, whose bullying erupts into violence. Strong language and some violence.

**RC 50773 *What Have You Lost?*, Poems selected by Naomi Shihab Nye**

Selections from 140 contemporary poets expressing their thoughts and observations in free verse on the theme of loss—of objects, people, places, or concepts. Many of the poems are first-time publications. Biographical notes on the contributors are included.

**RC 50066 *Babe Didrikson Zaharias: The Making of a Champion*, by Russell Freedman**

Biography of the “greatest woman athlete of all time,” who broke records in golf, track and field, and other sports in an era when there were few opportunities for female players. Discusses her childhood and her career after winning three medals in the 1932 Olympics.

**RC 52711 *Fire Bringer*, by David Clement-Davies**

When ancient Scotland was beset by Norse invaders, the deer were fighting their own war. Drail, a tyrannical stag and self-styled Lord of the Herds, is consolidating his power, when a prophesied and uniquely marked fawn—Rannoch—is born.

**RC 52758 *The Body of Christopher Creed*, by Carol Plum-Ucci**

Torey Adams, a high school junior with a perfect life, struggles with doubts and questions surrounding the mysterious disappearance of the class outcast. As he searches for answers, he analyzes his own behavior and discovers secrets in the victim’s family. Some strong language.

## **Cool Clips Contest**

The contest is open to students in grades 7-12. Use your creative talent to develop, stage, and produce a five minute video for the Fairfax County Public Library’s “Cool Clips” video contest. To help you learn more about the art of videography, special workshops are available at a number of local library branches. The contest ends August 30, 2003 and a special awards ceremony is planned for October 23 at the Kings Park Library. To learn more about this contest, call you local library branch or contact us at 703-324-8380.

## **Braille Note Club**

Braille Note Club is an initiative of Pulse Data to encourage users of BrailleNote and VoiceNote to communicate with each other. You must be between the ages of 7 and 17.

Anyone who joins this exclusive club will receive a free BN Club Members Pack and will be able to:

- Email other BrailleNote and VoiceNote users
- Swap educational tools, e-books, and favorite websites
- Contribute stories, essays, and poems

You can fill out a membership form at  
<http://www.pulsedata.org/BNClub.asp>

## **Summer Camps for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children and Teens**

The Clerc Center at Gallaudet University has a great list of summer camps. Find it at: 2003\_Summer Camps for Children Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing at <http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/InfoToGo/142.html>

## **College Bound – June 18-20, 2003**

The College Bound program is designed to ease the transition to college for students with various disabilities. Students stay 2 nights on the Virginia Tech campus. Parents are invited to attend with their student, but do not stay on campus.

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### ***College Bound continued...***

At College Bound students experience the life of a college student, enjoy meals in a university dining facility, interact with college students with disabilities and participate in workshops covering topics such as Leadership, Self-Advocacy, College Life, and College Survival Skills.

For more information contact Maureen Weyer at 540-231-4270(V), 540-231-3035 (TTY) or e-mail [collegebound@vt.edu](mailto:collegebound@vt.edu). More information is available at [www.swvats.atc.vt.edu](http://www.swvats.atc.vt.edu).

## **Audio Described Videos**

Be sure to check out the latest Audio Described Videos we have added to our collection: *Shrek*, *Spy Kids*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Dick Tracy*, *Beautiful Mind*, and *Saving Private Ryan*.

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### **Access Services**

Fairfax County Public Library  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035-0012  
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